

Press Release

Texas Agricultural Statistics Service

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On:

DECEMBER HOG AND PIG INVENTORY

UP 5 PERCENT FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

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Austin . . . The December 1, 2004 Texas hog and pig inventory, at 980,000, was up 5 percent from the December 2003 number.

The number of breeding hogs totaled 100,000 head, down 5 percent from last year, according to figures released by the Texas Agricultural Statistics Service.

The December 1 market hog inventory totaled 880,000 head, 90 percent of the total hog and pig inventory. The inventory of market hogs weighing less than 60 pounds, at 290,000 was up 18 percent from the previous year. The inventory of hogs weighing 60 to 119 pounds, at 200,000 head, was up 3 percent from the December 2003 inventory. Market hogs weighing 120 to 179 pounds, totaled 205,000 head, a 3 percent increase from last year, and hogs weighing 180 pounds or more, at 185,000 head, were unchanged from the previous year.

The 2004 Texas pig crop totaled 1.7 million head, 12 percent more than the 2003 pig crop. From December 2003 through November 2004, pigs per litter averaged 8.76, up 1 percent from the previous year. State Director, Robin Roark, reported that 194,000 sows farrowed in Texas during December 2003 through November 2004, compared to 174,000 the previous year.

The U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2004 is estimated at 60.5 million head, up slightly from a year ago but down 1 percent from the September 1, 2004 inventory. The breeding hog inventory, at 5.97 million head, was down 1 percent from last year. Market hog inventory, at 54.5 million head, was up slightly from last year.

The U.S. pig crop for September-November 2004 was 25.6 million head, up slightly from the previous year. U.S. producers intend to have 2.86 million sows farrow during the December 2004-February 2005 period, 1 percent above actual farrowings during the same period in 2004.